

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

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USSS-00 FBIE-00 DRC-01 /089 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0076

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CI

SUBJECT: US VISIT OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER EDUARDO FREI
MONTALVA

REF: SANTIAGO 4855

1. MEMBER OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) AT REQUEST OF PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL CALLED ON EMBOFF AUG 30 TO ASK ADVICE ON SECURITY ASPECTS OF PDC LEADER AND FORMER (1964-70) CHILEAN PRESIDENT FREI'S VISIT TO US (REFTEL). SAID PDC HAD HEARD ATTEMPTS MIGHT BE MADE TO EMBARRASS OR ENDANGER FREI DURING TRIP. POSSIBLE ACTION WOULD COME FROM OPPONENTS OF CHILEAN JUNTA, WHO ARE MORE AWARE OF PDC'S SUPPORT FOR MILITARY COUP YEAR AGO THAN OF ITS PRESENT POSITION CRITICAL OF JUNTA. SOURCE SAID FREI HIMSELF IS UNCONCERNED, BUT HIS ENTOURAGE IS WORRIED.

2. ASKED FOR EMBASSY JUDGMENT AS TO POSSIBLE ACTIONS OR ANY RECOMMENDATION ON HOW FREI SHOULD CONDUCT HIMSELF, EMBOFF DOUBTED REAL EMBARRASSMENT OR DANGER BUT SAID SECURITY COULD NOT BE GUARANTEED; SINCE FREI IS NOW PRIVATE PERSON OFFICIAL PROTECTION COULD NOT BE GIVEN. SAID, HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INFORMED. EMBASSY WOULD ASK FOR APPROPRIATE COURTESIES AND THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD PASS INFORMATION TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS APPROPRIATE.

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3. FREI SCHEDULE IS GENERAL. WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AND FEW FRIENDS FROM CHILE: DEPART SANTIAGO SEPT 7, AFTERNOON LAN PLANE FOR MIAMI, SEP 8 ARRIVAL. AFTER 2-3 DAYS, DRIVE TO PALM BEACH FOR FEW DAYS, THENCE BY CAR TO WASHINGTON. EXPECT TO BE IN BOSTON ABOUT OCT 12-20, THEN NEW YORK CITY UNTIL ABOUT DECEMBER. FREI WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH SAUL M. LINOWITZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON UNITED STATES-LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S JUDGEMENT ON POSSIBILITY OF EMBARRASSMENT TO FREI, AND WHETHER ANY USG ACTION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.
POPPER

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